

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A stainless steel tube for [[a]] an automobile structure member having excellent formability for secondary operation comprising:

a chemical composition including not more than 0.20 mass % of C; not more than 1.5 mass % of Si; not more than 2.0 mass % of Mn; 10-18 mass % of Cr; not more than 0.03 mass % of N; Fe as the remainder and the inevitable impurities; and

a structure which is constituted of ferrite or ferrite and martensite, wherein the TE value defined by the following formula (1) exceeds 25,000 MPa·%[[.]]

$$TE \text{ value} = TS \times (El + 21.9) \quad (1)$$

[[In]] in the aforementioned formula, TS represents the tensile strength in the tube axial direction (MPa), and El represents the elongation in the tube axial direction (%) of a tensile test piece having a cross-section with a width of 19 mm and a thickness of 2 mm, and having a gauge length of 50 mm, wherein

the Lankford value is 0.5 or more, the diameter of ferrite grains is 8 μ m or more, and the area ratio of martensite is 30% or less.

2-4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) A stainless steel tube according to claim 1, further comprising, in addition to the aforementioned chemical composition, at least one type of element selected from the group consisting of: not more than 0.6 mass % of Cu; not more than 0.6 mass % of Ni; not more than 2.5 mass % of Mo; not more than 1.0 mass % of Nb; not more than 1.0 mass % of Ti; and not more than 1.0 mass % of V.

6. (currently amended) [[A]] An automobile structure member having excellent fatigue resistance property, which member is produced by subjecting the stainless steel tube of claim 1 to a secondary forming treatment and a heat refining treatment so that the tensile strength thereof becomes not smaller than 800 MPa.

7-9. (canceled)